

**NH PDMP Advisory Council Meeting  
March 20, 2017  
OPLC/NH Board of Pharmacy**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Advisory Council Members Present:**

David Strang, MD, Chair, NH Medical Society (NHMS)  
Charles Albee, DMD, NH Board of Dental Examiners  
Brooke Belanger, NH Attorney General's Office  
Michael Bullek, NH Board of Pharmacy (BOP)  
Richard Crate, NH Police Chiefs' Association (via phone)  
David DePiero, NH Hospital Association (NHHA)  
Kate Frey, New Futures  
Joseph Harding, NH Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS)  
Eric Hirschfeld, D.D.S, NH Dental Society  
Jonathan Stewart, Community Health Institute (CHI)  
David Stowe, DVM, NH Board of Veterinary Medicine  
Michael Viggiano, RPh, State Pharmacy Associations  
John Wheeler, MD, Board of Medicine (BOM)

**Advisory Council Members Absent:**

Denise Nies, Executive Director, NH Board of Nursing (BON)

**Also Attending:**

Michelle Ricco Jonas, Manager, NH PDMP  
Joanie Foss, Administrative Assistant, NH PDMP  
Kathy Bizarro-Thunberg, NH Hospital Association (NHHA)  
Jim Giglio, TTAC (via phone)  
Patrick Knue, TTAC (via phone)  
James Potter, New Hampshire Medical Society  
Joseph Shoemaker, Medical Board Director (OPLC)

The meeting began at 3:07 pm

- **Introductions**  
Introductions were made. Michael Bullek, RPh is now representing the Board of Pharmacy on the Advisory Council.
- **Review & Approve Minutes**  
January 9, 2017 meeting: Motion by C. Albee. Second by Brooke Belanger.  
All in favor with no recommended changes.

January 9, 2017 meeting (non-public session): Motion by C. Albee. Second by D. DePiero. All in favor with no discussion or recommended changes.

February 13, 2017 meeting: Motion by C. Albee. Second by Brooke Belanger. M. Ricco Jonas requested the “Items of Interest” topic be changed to state “PA,” not “MD.” All in favor with the requested recommended change made.

- **Sub Committee Reports**

- **Implementation: General update (M. Ricco Jonas)**

M. Ricco Jonas attended a House Finance Sub-Cmte. meeting with the OPLC Director on Monday, 3/6/17, to review the FY ‘17, ‘18 & ‘19 PDMP budgets. The House Finance Sub-Committee approved an amendment to include the future PDMP budgets in the OPLC budget, for the budgeting process. Consequently, the PDMP budget does not have to go before Governor & Council this year.

Registration Report: Staff is currently working on a January/February registration and utilization report for the State regulatory boards.

- **PDMP Rules: (M. Ricco Jonas)**

The BOP was scheduled to review the proposed PDMP rules change at their 3/15/17 meeting, however the meeting was canceled due to the blizzard. They now plan to review this at their April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. If approved, the rules change would move to Atty. Lamberti to start the JLCAR process (e.g. fiscal impact statement (of which there is none), public hearings etc.).

- **Evaluation: (J. Stewart)**

We received our “data dump” from HID for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016. We are now working with IHPP to de-identify the data so that they can run reports and consider dashboards in which we and our partners are interested. He asked for input on research questions. M. Ricco Jonas stated that, due to the prior (now discontinued) practice of data purging after 6 months, the most complete program data is from April 2015 forward.

\*\*Action Item: Set up a joint meeting with the A.C. Evaluation Sub-Cmte., PDMP staff and IHPP.\*\*

J. Stewart distributed a handout entitled “Selected Morbidity and Mortality Indicators,” containing information about NH drug overdose deaths, Narcan use, ER visits, etc., related to opioid misuse. This generated lots of discussion with excellent input from both the A.C. members and public attendees.

- **Old Business**

- a. **HB291–Update (M. Ricco Jonas)**

Awaiting news re: when this bill crosses over to the Senate. As amended, a veterinarian’s query of PMP would be voluntary, but they still must register

with the PDMP and report dispensing of controlled substances. Maine has added veterinarians to their PDMP and they must query their State's database before prescribing controlled substances.

**b. Vendor Changes – Update (M. Ricco Jonas)**

A client/manager meeting was held on 3/7/17 to have an initial discussion about migration to the new “Aware” platform (Appriss product). There was a second meeting scheduled for Friday 3/10/17, at 4:00PM, to review this migration in more detail, however this was rescheduled for tomorrow, 3/21/17 to discuss next steps and a possible timeline. Migration of data may take 60 to 90 days, so we are aiming for a July or August target date. Partners and end users need to be informed of this upcoming change.

K. Bizarro-Thunberg stated that hospitals should therefore hold off from efforts to coordinate their EMR with the PDMP.

**c. CARA Funding – Update (M. Ricco Jonas)**

The deadline to submit an application is April 25, 2017. However, we are planning on an April 10<sup>th</sup> completion date and then for both grant applications (Category 5 & 6) to be sent over to the AG's office by April 17<sup>th</sup> for any final work prior to submission. We are applying for a \$400,000 Cat. 5 and \$600,000 Cat. 6 grant. Without these funds, we can only operate until mid 2018.

**d. Other Old Business**

D. Strang asked where Maine was with starting their interstate data sharing. Per M. Ricco Jonas, it is still unclear when they will start this.

D. DePiero commented that delegates should have access under specific providers, but what happens when delegates leave a practice? They should be dis-enrolled from the PDMP, but the provider for whom they are accessing data is ultimately responsible for ensuring this and thereby safeguarding access to the data.

- **New Business**

A State audit of the PDMP will begin with an entrance audit by the Board of Pharmacy. M. Ricco Jonas suspects a meeting will happen either with the full Advisory Council or with individual members or both. More information will be forthcoming as we learn more about the process.

Auditor: Steven M. Grady, MPA, MSS, Senior Performance Audit Manager, State of New Hampshire, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, Audit Division

- **Items of interest**

Data Integrity Initiative: PDMP staff has begun to collate “fatal” data errors by

month as a start and then will move to “serious” data errors. We will review this information and construct a plan on how to engage pharmacies re: errors and corrections. A report and status will be provided to the BOP, as there may be action taken by the Board of Pharmacy if errors continue or corrections are not made by the particular pharmacy, in accordance with the rules.

D. Strang asked what constituted a “fatal vs. minor” error? M. Ricco Jonas stated a fatal error would be a pharmacy not inputting a DOB correctly or having a missing address, in which case the PDMP fails to upload the data. An example of a minor error would be a “bad zip code,” where data upload stills occurs.

A data upload worksheet (e.g. animal prescriptions for veterinarians) was briefly mentioned.

M. Viggiano mentioned he had received a visit from the State Police with an “If you see something, say something” poster. It is a diversion-related poster and is intended for pharmacists and their employees.

- **Next Meeting:**

Date/Time: April 17, 2017; 3:00pm

Location: Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC)

- **Adjournment:**

Motion at 4:42 pm by C. Albee. Second by D. DePiero.

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David E. Strang MD".

David E. Strang, MD  
Chairman